A Coppie of a

LETTER,

Read in the Houſe of

COMMONS:

SENT

From Maſter SAMPFORD,

High Sheriffe of the Countie of *Somerſet*, and the Committee there, of their weekly proceedings, in ſearching the Recuſants Houſes.

Alſo the number of ſuch Ammunition as you taken in their Houſes, and ſent to the Caſtle of Taunton.

Ordered to be Printed.

[illegible], Cler. Parl. D. Com.

[illegible]

Printed by [illegible] for The [illegible] 1642.

A Copie of

LETTER

Read in the House of

COMMONS,

SENT

From Master SAMPFORD,

High Sheriff of the County of So-

merset, and the Committee there,

of their weekly proceedings, in

Raising the Scottish Horse.

Also the number of Foot, Horse, Arms, Ammu-

nition, Gunners, Gunners Mates, and Fort Mas-

ters in Tauton

Ordered to be Printed.

A Coppie of a Letter read in the house of Commons, sent from Master *Sampford*, high Sheriffe of the County of *Somerset*, and the Committee there, of their weekly *Proceedings*, &c.

Honourable Gentlemen,

WEE have sent you our Weeks taske, and an account of the service we were commanded by both Houses, viz.

IT is, on Munday, the fifteenth of *August*, early in the Morning wee with the attendants of the Trained Bands came to *Taunton* none knowing our intent, (the Major excepted) after an houres respite, Baronet *Portman*, Mr. *Coles*, Mr. *Pyne*, and others were sent for by us, who immediately came and assisted us with Horse and Foot: Then after consultation wee

wee searched one Master Arnolds house, a Recusant, and found therein [illegible] Armour, [illegible] twenty [illegible] Tuckers [illegible] ster's Reeve, [illegible] mens Armour for Horse and Foot, also two barrells of Gun-powder, fifty great Saddles, and shot of all sorts. Then we marched to the out-parishes, as Badsford, Menerd, Langforth and Wellington, and in Badsford searching Captaine *Collins* house, found therein ten mens Armour, and in Master *Cooks* house of the same parish five mens Armour, and searching Master *Sheeres* house, found therein 40 mens Armour of pike and musquet; And at Langford, at Master *Prowses* house twenty mens Armour, and at Wellington in Master *Strawbridge's* house fifty mens Armour.

On Tuesday, the fifteen we marched to *Bridgwater*, where we were entertained by the Major and Aldermen, and found therein at some private gentlemens houses about sixty mens Armour, and so the Association, and left it in charge with the Major and Aldermen, to be ready at the King and Parliaments command.

On Wednesday the seventeenth we marched to *Taunton*, and comming within a mile of the Towne, were met by the Major and Aldermen, and accompanyed by them into the Towne, and quartered our selves, to searching, two in a street, and began first and searched the Bishops house, but found nothing there. But in Doctor *Westons* house wee found neere upon one hundred mens Armour; in Esquire *Roses* house forty

mens

thens armour, in Esquire *Allards* house forty mens armour, in Master *Hungers* house twenty mens armour, in Master *Tookers* house fifty mens armour, and wee gave immediate charge to have them carryed to *Taunton* Castle, which was so done.

On Thursday the 18. we marched to the City of Bath, accompanyed with Mr. *Barrett* of Cotford, Master *Bafet*, Master *Harrington*, Master *Bampfield*, and others, and there searched Sir *George Ives* house but found none there, but one of his servants said he had sent all his Armour to *Sir Ralph Hopton's* house and was going thither to sojourne with his wife and family. Then wee searched one Master *Cedars* house, neare the Earle of *Rutlands* Castle, and found therein 100 mens armour, five light horses, and sufficient ammunition for twenty horse more, and about 10000. pound in money: and afterward wee went to Sir *Edward Rodneys* house, where we concluded that some of us should the next day with a sufficient Company of Horse and foot, search these Townes here underwritten, viz.

Glastenbury, Ilchester, Ilminster,
Sharpen, Mallet, Chard, Crewkerne.
Sarum, and North Pelherton, &c.

The Sheriffe requested that by reason of his age he might be excused of the said attendance, and that his servants should wait on them where they pleased, which was granted.

Sir Edward Rodney and Captaine *Brooker* immediately sent warrants for the Trained Bands about them to give their attendance the day following.

On-

On Fryday the 19 two companies of foot came to Sir *Edward Rodneys* house and searched the Towne of Glastenbury, and found therein forty mens armour, and at the ende of Glastenbury Downe in Farmer *Twiffs* houle 100 mens armour of horse and foot, and after examination, confessed it was his Landlords armour, Sir *John Stowells*, and hath had it within this six weeks, nevertheleſſe, committed him to Ilchester Goale for his leavesse.

This day also Mr. *Phillips*, Mr. *Light*, Mr. *Hodges*, & Mr. *Trevillion* met at Ilchester, and a Trained band attended on them and searched one Mr. *Vincents*, and Mr. *Fortescues* houses, & found in each of them 40 mens armour a peice, and in Kingston parish being the Earle of Barkshires were found in a barne 10 light horses, 100 Saddles 100 Iwords and 40 musquets which was immediately sent to Taunton. In Ilminster and Shipton Mallet, there are divers other poore Reculants, but none able to buy or maintaine armes.

This day also at *Chard* there met Mr. *Martine*, Sr *Henry Rosewell*, Mr *Preston*, and Mr *Symes* who were accompanyied with the trained Bands, and searched the Parson of the Parish his house, and found there 50 mens Armour, in Mr *Coleman's* house 100 mens Armour, in *Sir William Button's* Ladies House 150 mens Armour, in Mr *Hill's* house 50 mens Armour; All which was likewise sent to Taunton Castle.

The same day Mr. *Meredith*, Mr. *Fowler* and others were appointed to search at Crookehorne and thereabouts, who came to the Lord *Paulet's* house, but the Gentry and servants there in would not obey their authoritie but bid them be gone otherwise they would

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ler bullets fly amongst them, and would not let any of the Trained Bands to enter the said house: Hereupon one of the Trained Band shot a bullett against the Port-house doore, nevertheless they would not open it, at length they brake it open and entred perforce & one of the Trained Band killed, there was above fifty persons therein Gentry and servants, there was found 10 light horse and 150 mens Armour or thereabouts.

Then wee came to North and South Petherton & in *Sir John Cary's* house found 20 mens Armour; All which number of Armes amounting unto, *viz.*

Armour	1800	Light-horse	25
Saddles	150	Money	1000 *l.*

All which wee left in the Castle at Taunton under the Custody of the Maior and Aldermen of the said Towne with a sufficient guard for the safe keeping thereof.

Wee therefore humbly pray the Honourable Assembly in Parliament, that the Ammunition taken aforesaid may not be carried out of the Country but that it may be distributed and imployed in the defence of the Countrey. And wee shall daily pray for the happy proceedings of both Houses.

From Bath, *August* 20. 1642.

Your affectionate friends,

H. Sampford. *J. Horner.*
I. Strond. *A. Popham.*
F. Coles. *A. Pyne.*

Ordered to bee Printed.
Hen. Elsing Cler. Parl. D. Com.

FINIS.